

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Attorney Docket No. 2006\_0611A  
Masao NONAKA et al. : **Confirmation No. 4794**  
Serial No. 10/577,448 : Group Art Unit 2437  
Filed April 27, 2006 : Examiner Jeffrey D. Popham  
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**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of August 3, 2009, please amend the above-referenced U.S. patent application as follows: